



UNAPPROVED PARTS NOTIFICATION

SUSPECTED UNAPPROVED PARTS PROGRAM OFFICE, AVS-20
13873 PARK CENTER ROAD, SUITE 165
HERNDON, VA 20171

U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

No. 2004-00053
February 13, 2006

<http://www.faa.gov/aircraft/safety/programs/sups/upn/>

Mailed by FAA AIR-140, P O Box 26460, Oklahoma City OK 73125

AFFECTED PARTS

Thompson fuel pumps.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this notification is to advise all aircraft owners, operators, maintenance organizations, manufacturers, and parts distributors regarding improper maintenance performed on Thompson fuel pumps (part no. TF-1900).

BACKGROUND

Information received during a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) suspected unapproved parts investigation revealed that prior to April 26, 2005, Thunderbird Aircraft Parts, Inc. (Thunderbird), located at 5406 N. Rockwell Avenue, Bethany, OK 73008, improperly maintained and approved for return to service Thompson fuel pumps applicable to various types of aircraft. Thunderbird holds Air Agency Certificate No. IC2R893K, with limited accessory ratings.

Discrepancies noted in Thunderbird's practices included:

- Approving for return to service fuel pumps that were not properly tested using methods, techniques, and practices acceptable to FAA.
- Approving for return to service fuel pumps that were not maintained in accordance with the current manufacturer's maintenance manual or methods otherwise acceptable to FAA.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Regulations require that type-certificated products conform to their type design. Aircraft owners, operators, maintenance organizations, and parts suppliers and distributors should inspect their aircraft, aircraft records, and/or parts inventories for Thompson fuel pumps approved for return to service by Thunderbird. Suspect parts installed on aircraft should be inspected for conformity to type design. If any are found in existing stock, it is recommended that the parts be quarantined to prevent installation until a determination can be made regarding each part's eligibility for installation.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information concerning this investigation, and guidance regarding the above-referenced parts, can be obtained from the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) given below. The FAA would appreciate any information concerning the discovery of the above-referenced part from any source, the means used to identify the source, and the actions taken to remove the part from aircraft and/or stock.

This notice originated from the FAA Oklahoma City FSDO, 1300 S. Meridian, Suite 601, Oklahoma City, OK 73108, telephone (405) 951-4200, fax (405) 951-4282; and was published through the FAA Suspected Unapproved Parts Program Office, AVS-20, telephone (703) 668-3720, fax (703) 481-3002.